Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*): Has the Vaniampara Rubber Co., filed their balance-sheet?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): I want notice.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*): What is the action taken by Government regarding the St. Joseph's Bank?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): Action is being taken at present. Its affairs have been in confusion for some years now, from the year 1108, I think. There was a petition in the Anjikaimal District Court for winding up of this bank. The proceedings continued till the year 1110 or 1111. In the mean time, the Registrar wanted to inspect, but he was prevented by a stay-order of the Court. But after the liquidator is appointed, the action is being taken now.

LABOUR STRIKE—AMBALLUR.

144. **Mr. A. V. Moothedan** (*Chalakkudi*): Will the Government be pleased to

(*a*) give a succinct account of the recent labour strike at the Cochin Textiles, Ltd., at Amballur;

(*b*) what action was taken by the Government;

(*c*) was any action taken by the Hon'ble Minister?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) A few workmen left the Mills on 28th Edavam 1113 as they were dissatisfied with the wages. The question was closed with the mills. But these workmen and their outside leaders persuaded some others to join issues with them. The mills then reduced the work from two shifts to one. Discussions were fruitless as those connected with the trouble had no clear idea of their grievances. Meanwhile the grievances were reduced to print, the most important of which was increase in wages in all departments. The mills could not accept this as there was no case for an increase. On 8th Mithunam 1113 some members of the Legislative Council and other public gentlemen intervened and requested the management to reconsider their position (but not on its merits). The management acceded and announced a 5% increase. From 9th Mithunam 1113 two shifts were resumed.

(*b*) No action was taken by Government.

(*c*) No.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (*Ezhuvas-Trichur*): What do you mean by "the question was closed with the mills"?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): They did not take any further action. When the workmen struck, they changed the shifts and kept quiet.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*): When was the actual work started in the Mills?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): Probably some 5 or 6 months back.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*): Have they struck any balance-sheet or have they declared any dividend till now?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): They have not declared any dividend.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon (*Mulakunnathukavu*): How did Government get all the details they have supplied in (*a*)?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): From the Police Commissioner and the District Magistrate, who made enquiries in the matter.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon (*Mulakunnathukavu*): Is it your information or the information from the Mill authorities?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): That is the information of the Mill authorities.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon (*Mulakunnathukavu*): Do you accept that?

Mr. President: It is not the information of the Government at all.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (*Ezhuvas-Trichur*): Are the wages paid in this Mill, the same as in the Sitaram Mills in Trichur?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): That is my information.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*) Whether one of the grievances was the distinction between the Cochin labourers and the tamil labourers?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): That was alleged to be one of the reasons.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): So you say there is no difference in the wages of these two classes?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): The information is that there is absolutely no difference.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*): Is it not a general practice to give more wages to experts?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*): Were not the pepole brought down from Coimbatore, experts?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): Some of them are experts.

Mr. P. Achyuta Menon (*Kattur*): What is meant by 'some intervened and requested the management to reconsider their position, (but not on its merits)'?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): Those who interfered in the matter asked the Mill authorities to give some additional wages.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): Is there not a director appointed by the Government in the Textiles?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): There is one.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): Has any report been obtained from him?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): No.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): Why?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): There was no necessity. The whole thing was terminated, I think, in the course of one or two days.

But we called for a report from the Manager of the Mills. The Manager reported that the whole thing is closed.

COCHINITES IN THE SERVICE OF THE S. I. RAILWAY COMPANY.

145. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*): Will the Government be pleased to state the number of Cochinites who are in the service of the South Indian Railway?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): Government have no information.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly